

Sermon Summary

The Apostle Paul, writer of the New Testament letters to the Corinthian church, felt called by God to lead a single life. He was a big proponent of the spiritual benefits of singleness (being unmarried). The truth is that both married and single people are valuable to God and to the church. God has gifted us and called us in various ways (and sometimes in various seasons) when it comes to this subject. This week's sermon text helps us understand how the church should honor, include, and intentionally love those who are single.

Key Passage: 1 Corinthians 7: 7-8, 29-35

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

<u>Grow</u>

In 1 Corinthians 7:7 The Apostle Paul said, "I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet each person has a special gift from God, of one kind or another." So, he describes both singleness and married life as gifts from God. Talk about what Paul says here.

What does Paul mean when he says married people are divided or filled with anxieties about the world?

What do you think it means to be anxious about the things of the Lord and how to please the Lord?

<u>Go</u>

What are some ways that a church can love and include singles well?

If you're single, what are some things you wish that married couples in the church knew about being single in the 21st century? What are some steps the church can take to grow in being brothers and sisters in Christ?

If you're married, what are some ways you were able to serve the Lord as a single? What are some unique ways you can serve the Lord as a married couple?